

Ron Woods
15 Len Court
Kingston, NY 12401
845-338-9438

December 22, 2021

Elise Tinti
City Clerk-City of Kingston, NY
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401

Clerk Tinti,

I'm a long time member/volunteer of the Kingston Democratic Party, past Chairman of the Kingston Recreation Commission and past Chairman of the Rondout Neighborhood Center. I am also an advocate of the poor and the seniors of the city that I want no credit for.

I chaired the construction of Rondout Gardens, a nice place for low income families and seniors to live. My aunt lived there for years. As the Chairman of the Rondout Community Action committee I oversaw the building of the Rondout Neighborhood Center, a wonderful gym for our underprivileged children since 1971.

I've made many donations for our Children in the way of bicycles at Christmas, cash donations to different programs, and many new programs for our downtown seniors.

I grew up very poor on Hunter Street in the Rondout. I now am very lucky that I am able to financially support these groups and have not forgotten the poor people and children in the City.

I support the Kingstonian Project to be able to house 14 low income units for the poor people of the City.

Brad Jordan has given many donations to Family, Peoples Place, Boys and Girls Club, City Recreation and many other programs that benefit low income people.

The Kingstonian will move uptown Kingston forward; bring in new business and people to the area, offices and a restaurant. I believe the Kingstonian is a very positive project for the City of Kingston.

Regards,



Ron Woods
Honorary Chairman
Kingston Recreation Commission

Cc: All Alderman of the City of Kingston

1/12/22
PUBLIC HEARING

Ron Woods
15 Len Court
Kingston, NY 12401
845-338-9438

I am an Honorary Member of the Kingston Recreation Commission, and I support the Kingstonian.

I think it is an improvement that will help our city more than any project in our cities long history. ^{it} will help all the businesses in the area and give us a place to shop, eat, live and stay. There will also be a number of jobs created at this facility.

Brad Jordan has contributed so much to our community and will continue to be a strong supporter of: Peoples Place, Boys and Girls Club, Family, Christmas parties for the poor youth of the city, selling Christmas Trees at Herzog's and all the proceeds given to the Boys and Girls Club.

There is also a baseball field at Kingston Plaza that Brad built for the Children of the city to play on.

There was a traveling baseball team for underprivileged kids sponsored by Brad. He paid for uniforms, equipment, food and lodging and all other related expenses to help that team compete. The parents of these children were very appreciative of his generosity. He also provided clothing for the poor children in downtown Kingston.

I could go on as to what Brad has done and will continue to do for the underprivileged of the city. **Please vote in favor of the Kingstonian Project.**

Respectfully,



Ron Woods

Sills, Dee

From: Clark Richters <clark12401@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2021 11:40 AM
To: Sills, Dee
Subject: Re: Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Public Hearing: Abandonment of Fair Street Ext.

Please make this part of the public hearing records

City Clerk/Registrar
Elisa Tinti

I do not agree with the proposal to abandon Fair Street Extension. This will cause more traffic congestion in uptown especially on Clinton Avenue & Westbrook Lane. furthermore

This \$25 million tax exemption over the next 25 years. and the proposal to abandon the Fair Street Extension should be on a public referendum for the voters to vote on

Clark Richters Sr. Kingston

My Blog <https://thekingstonnews.blogspot.com/>
in regards to Public Hearing: Abandonment of Fair Street Ext.

On Thu, Dec 23, 2021 at 11:35 AM Tinti, Elisa <emtinti@kingston-ny.gov> wrote:

I will be out of my office until Monday, September 27th. If you need immediate assistance please email Dee Sills at dsills@kingston-ny.gov .
Thank you,
Elisa Tinti
City Clerk



Nan Potter
Licensed Real Estate Broker
845-389-8965
Nanpotter66@gmail.com

1 John Street
PO Box 4261
Kingston, NY 12401
www.potterrealtyproperties.com

Bill Slutzky
Associate Broker
845-853-3506
billslutzky66@gmail.com

01/05/2022

RE: FAIR STREET EXTENSION

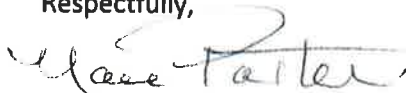
Greetings Common Council:

With regards to the city partially abandoning Fair St Extension to the developer of the Kingstonian:

I stand in support of the proposal, and I understand and agree with many of the reasons that those opposed hold that position. I simply cannot alter my conclusion that the pro's outweigh the con's for this proposal. The parking, the public access, the increase in residential living space, in addition to the employment and the overall increase in net asset value of our community, which will radiate outward from the site specific project. All this provides positive growth as we move into our post COVID era.

Change can be hard sometimes, but the minor inconveniences to be realized by those of us with roots in the community will quickly be forgotten as our business district blossoms with new potential.

Respectfully,


Nan Potter

Tinti, Elisa

From: Carol Ricken <carolricken@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 10:26 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial street closure

To the Common Council :

I am a resident of Kingston and wish to go on record as being a supportive voter in favor of the closure of the Fair St. extension. The economic benefits far outweigh any negative concerns. I am very much in favor of the Kingstonian project.

Carol Ricken
3 Delta St.
Kingston

Sent from my iPhone

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Carol Ricken <carolricken@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 10:26 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial street closure

To the Common Council :

I am a resident of Kingston and wish to go on record as being a supportive voter in favor of the closure of the Fair St. extension. The economic benefits far outweigh any negative concerns. I am very much in favor of the Kingstonian project.

Carol Ricken
3 Delta St.
Kingston

Sent from my iPhone

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Frank Campagna <fcampagna@colorpageonline.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 10:55 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] In Favor of Partial Street Closure

City of Kingston Common Council
c/o Elisa Tinti, City Clerk
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
Email: emtinti@kingston-ny.gov
Phone: (845) 334-3915

Dear City Of Kingston Common Council Members,

I am writing to express my support for the Kingstonian project in the City of Kingston and a favorable vote for the partial street abandonment.

My name is Frank Campagna, I am a second-generation business owner located in the Midtown Arts District in the City of Kingston since 1976. I purchased my first home on West O'Reilly Street in Midtown Kingston and lived there for many years. My wife and I have worked long hours to own the commercial real estate that my business currently occupies, located at 81, 83 and 85 Ten Broeck Avenue in Midtown Kingston. I care a lot about the well-being of Kingston, it has always been a significant part of my life and career. My most significant investments have been made in the City of Kingston and I plan to continue playing my part to help improve Kingston through my volunteer efforts and future investments. In fact, I often wondered why more businesses do not locate in Kingston and hoped someday projects like the Kingstonian would eventually happen to spark further private investments to fund development projects and improvements in the worn and tired areas throughout the City.

The Kingstonian project provides smart, productive growth as it will: provide greater visibility and access to our City's largest shopping districts, increase consumer spending to our small business community, support our growing tourism, create new jobs, increase sales tax revenue, improve pedestrian walkways, add to the housing inventory and increase much needed public parking and bathrooms. I am hopeful a project of this nature will also bring interest to middle-market employers who will find value in Kingston's wonderful attributes and emerging energy.

The partial street closure is justified by the value of the benefits it will bring to our City with no tax increase to City taxpayers. I do not believe there will be a better opportunity in the future. Kingston's opportunity is now, it is important that we show our support and prevent unnecessary delays that will send the wrong message to those seeking expansion or growth in Kingston.

Thank you for your hard work during this important time for Kingston.

Please vote in favor of the Partial Street Closure for the Kingstonian.

Regards,
Frank Campagna

 **Frank Campagna**

Marketing Strategist / Consultant

845-331-7581 Ext. 11

Tri-State Associated Services, Inc.

81 Ten Broeck Ave., Kingston, NY 12401

www.tsasinc.com



Kingston, Click To Explore Our Great City!



This e-mail message and any attachments are private communication, meant solely for the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited.

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Jim Corsones <jamescorsones@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 11:30 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Kingstonian Project

Dear Ms Tinti:

I am a native Kingstonian who has retired and moved to Virginia. I was raised on Fair Street. For the first nine years of my professional life, I used my father's old office in the basement of my childhood home on Fair Street. My parents lived in that house from 1950-2002. I can not appear in person to speak at the public hearing. However, I would like to voice my strong support for the project in general and for the road closure of Fair Street to accomplish this. The overall value of this project would help revitalize Uptown and be a boon to the entire city. Please forward my support to the Common Council. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jim Corsones
114 Butler Circle
Locust Grove, VA 22508
845-594-5206
jamescorsones@gmail.com

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Kerri Culhane
Architectural Historian &
Historic Preservation Consultant
107 N River Road
Fort Miller, New York 12828
culhaneblack@gmail.com
646/737-3390

January 7, 2022

Mark Grunblatt, Chairman
Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission
420 Broadway, Kingston, NY 12534
By email via the City Clerk & Planning Director:
emtinti@kingston-ny.gov; scahill@kingston-ny.gov

Re: The Kingstonian

Dear Chairman Grunblatt & Members of the Commission:

As an independent architectural historian, I have over 20 years of experience in the evaluation, documentation and preservation of culturally and architecturally significant resources in New York State, with particular experience working with historic districts. In 2010 and again in 2021, I received awards from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) recognizing my work evaluating and documenting historic districts, including an urban district in New York City and a cultural landscape here in the mid-Hudson Valley. I am qualified as a historic preservation professional and architectural historian consistent with the United States Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR 61).

I have been engaged by William Gottlieb Real Estate to review the proposed designs for the Kingstonian. I have closely reviewed the official findings from the OPRHP; the reports submitted to the City of Kingston by the Kingstonian's developers; public comments; the Kingston Stockade Historic District (KSHD) National Register Nomination; and the code guiding the work of the Kingston Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission (HLPC) within the local Stockade Area Landmark District. The Kingston HLPC has a mandate to consider impacts and

aesthetic relationships between proposed new construction and historic resources. My comments related to impacts and aesthetic relationships are grounded in accepted historic preservation practice and based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Of particular relevance to the Kingstonian proposal is Standard 9 of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation:

New additions, exterior alterations or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment. <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm>

The Kingston Stockade Historic District is a State and National Register-listed historic district encompassing one of the earliest Dutch Colonial settlements in New York, chosen by the Dutch settlers for its specific topography. The KSHD's National Register nomination form notes it as a significant "historical, architectural and archaeological area in New York State," with a period of significance that extends from the 17th century to the mid-20th century. Historic districts are judged in aggregate – the district is not just a collection of resources, it is the resource, therefore altering part of the district impacts the entire resource. Accordingly, clearly defined and cohesive boundaries are critical to the character, preservation and legibility of the district; the quality and character of the resources at the boundary – whether buildings or landscape features – literally define the district.

Because of the extraordinary significance of the Kingston Stockade District, including its topography and archaeological potential, Weston Davey, Historic Site Restoration Coordinator of the OPRHP, determined early on that the proposed Kingstonian development would have an adverse impact upon the Stockade Historic District (Davey to Bonura, September 19, 2019). Davey explicitly objected to:

- The destruction of "the natural contour [that] clearly marks the northern boundary of the 1658 stockade";

- Large-scale development beyond the boundaries of the district, impacting its setting and sense of place;
- The elimination of a section of Fair Street Extension north of North Front Street, altering the historic street pattern;
- The monolithic nature and character of the proposed development, in contrast to the scale and material variety of the historic district.

After minor aesthetic modifications by the developer, Davey's objections were waived by the OPRHP's John Bonafide in his communication with Empire State Development (February 14, 2020). Regardless of even the most recent aesthetic modifications made to the façades (The Kingstonian Presentation, November 4, 2021), there remain unmitigated and unmitigable issues raised by Davey that threaten the character, integrity and sense of place of the Kingston Stockade Historic District. These include:

- Destruction of historic resources, including the landform and potential archaeological features.
 - The likelihood of excavations encountering and destroying archaeological features of the historic stockade is high, as is the likelihood of finding prehistoric or Dutch and British Colonial features. (Joseph Diamond, PhD, Phase 1A Cultural Resource Investigation, 19PR00786, September 4, 2019.)
 - The proposed destruction of the landscape sloping to the Esopus Creek would be a loss of a poorly documented but widely understood and experienced feature of the district. In a district chosen by 17th century Dutch settlers specifically for its location along and above the creek, a National Register nomination today would ascribe contributing resource status to this landform as a cultural and/or natural landscape. As it is, these resources are part of the KSHD under National Register Criterion D.
- Destroying the coherence and integrity of the defined district boundary.
 - In a historic district, the district as a whole is the resource.
 - At this highly visible district boundary the developers have proposed a "recreation" of the historic Herzog warehouse at a significantly larger scale, defying accepted historic preservation practice and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Reconstruction. Altering the scale of the "reconstructed" building gives a false sense of history.

- The Kingstonian extends beyond the boundaries of the National Register Historic District, defying the inward-facing character of North Front Street that is a clear vestige of an area enclosed by a stockade.
- Straddling the KSHD boundary with a massive complex and pedestrian mall threatens not just the adjacent buildings but the character of the entire historic resource.
- Loss of the historic street pattern and creation of new traffic problems
 - The Fair Street Extension is part of Kingston's historic street pattern and stands within the local Stockade Area Landmark District.
 - Traffic Studies model a threefold increase of traffic on Clinton Avenue, (Kingston's first historic district and also part of the Stockade Area and KSHD) including lengthy backups if the Fair Street Extension is closed, creating additional adverse impacts on Clinton Avenue."Traffic Impact Study: The Kingstonian", Creighton Manning for the City of Kingston Planning Board, July 23, 2019, p.30.
 - A pedestrian mall is out of character with Kingston's urban form and the character of the KSHD.
- Overwhelming "monolithic" scale and its physical and aesthetic incompatibility.
 - The sheer bulk of the project is overwhelming in relationship to the surrounding scale and quality of the historic fabric;
 - The enormous footprint of the project blurs the boundary of the district and alters the approach to the district.
 - The bulk (height and footprint) of the project alienates the interior of the district from the contextual borrowed view to the Catskills.

In fact, of the four New York State criteria for determining impact as set forth in 9 NYCRR 428.7, Assessment of Impact, the Kingstonian project—even its currently proposed form (11/4/2021)—meets three of the four criteria for adverse impact (only demolition by neglect is not met):

- Destruction or alteration of all or part of the property
- Isolation or alteration of the property's environment
- Introduction of visual, audible or atmospheric elements which are out of character with the property or alter its setting

Despite the acquiescence of the OPRHP to this project, The Kingstonian should not be construed as meeting the State nor Federal historic preservation standards. It does not, and the OPRHP correspondence indicates that their objections were not fully addressed before the project was hastily approved by OPRHP. The Kingstonian development (as of 11/4/2021), sprawling across the KSHD boundary, remains out of scale and character with the Kingston Stockade Historic District and the Stockade Area Landmark District, and will result in the loss of historic features and spatial relationships that are essential to the history and ongoing legibility of the stockade, its associated landform and the Stockade Area historic district.

Because the Kingston Stockade Historic District is overlaid with a local historic district, with local design review oversight that must carefully consider the project's relationships, scale, "effect on existing or historically significant spaces," and "appropriateness to the preservation of the Stockade Area", the HLPC has the opportunity to defend the fabric, integrity and character of the Kingston Stockade Historic District in a way the OPRHP failed to do.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a horizontal line.

Kerri Culhane
Architectural Historian

CC: Suzanne Cahill, Planning Director <scahill@kingston-ny.gov>
Andrea Shaut, Alderman-at-Large <commoncouncil@kingston-ny.gov>
Elisa Tinti, City Clerk <emtinti@kingston-ny.gov>

Tinti, Elisa

From: Vincent Bradley <vincebradley@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 2:50 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Kingstonian support

Ms. Tinti,

I am a Kingston resident who was born and raised in the city on Manor Ave. I am in full support of the Kingstonian Project and as a result I am also in full support of the permanent partial closure of the Fair Street extension for purposes of the project. I believe this is the largest influx of private investment in the City of Kingston in my lifetime and believe this project will provide an enormous public and economic benefit to the community that needs it tremendously. The fact that a large part of the development team are also natives of Kingston and have a decades long track record of supporting and giving back to their community only reinforces my faith that this project will be of the highest quality and constructed as advertised.

Vince Bradley, Jr.

Sent from my iPhone

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Lindsey Danis <lindsey.danis@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 3:35 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fair Street Extension public comment

Elisa,

Below please find my public comment for the Fair Street Extension, resent from 12/6/21 since the hearing was rescheduled.

I have lived in Kingston for the last 6 years, but I've been visiting the area for many more. I find the proposed Fair Street Extension closing befuddling. Uptown is very congested as it is, and closing Fair Street, which provides access to the shops at the Kingston Plaza and another way around the traffic that backs up by the bus station, seems short-sighted. I do not believe this is in the best interests of local people in the long term. Extra traffic will clog the roads, increasing pollution and carbon emissions. It will make the uptown area unpleasant for people trying to run errands (my bank is in that area, for example) and it will serve the handful of Kingstonian residents and the developers. There are many red flags associated with this project, and I'd like to add my voice to the chorus urging for reconsideration of this luxury development.

- Lindsey Danis

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Gene Waterbury <gwaterbury@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 3:56 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial Road Closure Fair Street Extension

TO: City of Kinston Common Council

FROM: Eugene Waterbury

DATE: January 7, 2022

SUBJECT: PARTIAL ROAD CLOSURE FAIR STREET EXTENSION

I live, work and shop in the uptown area and support the partial closure of Fair Street Extension because of the multitude of benefits the project will bring.

Uptown Kingston desperately needs public parking. In order to provide a first class parking garage at NO cost to taxpayers, local business leaders came together to offer to build a public parking garage as part of a hotel/apartment/retail project. In addition to 277 public parking spots, the Kingstonian will also provide more tax revenue, affordable housing, public restrooms, new housing stock, over 300 new daily consumers to the uptown district, construction jobs, increased sales tax, tourism and ADA compliant pedestrian access to the business district. In order to make this project a success, it is necessary to partially close a portion of Fair Street Extension.

Once closed, developers will construct, for use by the general public:

- A plaza which will contain a kiosk promoting historic sites in and around Kingston and the Hudson Valley.
- Storefronts inside the pedestrian plaza creating sales tax and employment.
- An ADA compliant pedestrian bridge to link the uptown business district to Kingston Plaza and additional parking.
- The pedestrian plaza and ADA compliant bridge are part of the DRI grant and specifically included in how the DRI funds must be used.

- The bridge encourages walkability and pedestrian safety - two important items the project was specially asked to provide.

As presented from the onset, the linking of both sides of the street is what makes the project most beneficial to the community and economically feasible to build. It allows the project to meet multiple goals outlined in advance by the City of Kingston and so much more—public parking, housing, employment, walkability, pedestrian safety, public restrooms, affordable housing, and public gathering space.

For these reasons I support the partial closure of Fair Street Extension.

Thank you for your consideration.

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: James M. Sottile <james@jamesottile.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 6:03 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Cc: James M. Sottile
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial road closure Fair Street extension

Dear Mrs. Tinti:

Im sending this message to voice my support for the Kingstonian project for uptown Kingston and the closure of a portion of Fair Street. After reviewing all the information both for and against this project it is my humble opinion that the benefits of closing a portion of Fair street far outweighs not closing therefore hindering the Kingstonian project. This public and private partnership that has been created on this project defines, how with private investment, the public can benefit. Please enter my comments into the record. Thank you

Sincerely James M Sottile.
Former Mayor
City of Kingston

Sent from my iPhone

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Rita Vanacore <trvanacore@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 7:03 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Kingstonian support

Ms. Elisa Tinti - please forwarded this to the entire Common Council.

We support the City of Kingston transfer of the Fair Street Extension to the Kingstonian Development to help create the necessary components of this project.

The project on this portion of Fair Street will be an asset to Uptown, in that it will create a walkable, pedestrian friendly area and will,also, forever delete the fragmentation of this portion of the Uptown District.

We, the undersigned, wholly approve and support this project.

Dominick J. Vanacore Jr.
Rita Vanacore
Gina Vanacore Tisch
34 North Front St
Kingston, NY 12401

email - djvanacore@mac.com

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Wayne C. Maisch

83 Wilson Avenue
Kingston, New York 12401
Workman195@aol.com

To: City of Kingston Common Council
RE: Fair Street Extension
Date: 01/07/2022

Dear Common Council Members

I wish to take this opportunity to express my support for the closure of Fair Street Extension as it pertains to the Kingstonian Project.

I am a resident of the City of Kingston and have been so since October 1988.

The Kingstonian Project is a win-win for the City of Kingston and the developers. The overall impact it will have on the stockade area and surrounding area will be beneficial to all parties involved. The walkways and open space opportunities are numerous.

I am not going to belabor the issue by sending you a lengthy dissertation on the benefits of the Kingstonian project. I AM IN TOTAL SUPPORT OF THE CLOSURE OF THE FAIR STREET EXTENSION

Respectfully yours

Wayne C Maisch

Tinti, Elisa

From: Deborah Mangrum-Price <deborah@deborahmangrumprice.com>
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2022 7:35 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Speak at January 12th Meeting regarding Fair Street

Hello,

Please add me to the list of speakers at the Public Meeting regarding Fair Street on January 12th from 6:30pm - 9:30pm.
My name is Deborah Mangrum-Price.

Thank you,
Deborah

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Nora Post <norapost37@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 08, 2022 8:04 AM
To: Shaut, Andrea
Cc: Tinti, Elisa; Hill, Barbara
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] The Kingstonian

I would like to voice my enthusiastic support for the Kingstonian project as well as the partial street closure that is coming up for a hearing very soon.

As a long-time resident of Uptown Kingston, I see so many positives that the Kingstonian will bring to this community. Looking beyond all the immediate benefits, I would like to mention the longer-term benefit of bringing more rental housing to the area. Like so many parts of the country, we are desperate for rental housing that would allow people who work here to be able to live here and contribute to the economy of Kingston as residents. We need rental housing of every kind, for every income level, and the Kingstonian is such a welcome step in the right direction.

From what I can read, the partial road closure will bring so many advantages, and will link Kingston Plaza to the rest of Uptown Kingston. I particularly like the idea of making the area more walkable. That would mean less congestion and most likely fewer car owners. All good!

On a personal note, I was looking forward to retiring and moving to the Kingstonian. That was five years ago! Instead, I sold my house and bought another, much smaller house in an effort to downsize. Obviously, I gave up on the Kingstonian, at least for the time being. Five years is long enough to graduate from medical school, or law school or engineering school, not to mention four years at any undergraduate school. I urge everyone to move forward with this project that is going to bring so many positives to Kingston! What are we waiting for?

Respectfully yours,

Nora Post, PhD
45 Dunneman Avenue
Kingston, NY 12401
www.Norapost.com
Norapost37@gmail.com
845.331.4845

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Olivieri, Michael
Sent: Saturday, January 08, 2022 8:17 AM
To: Alderman
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fair street extension

From a constituent.

Michael A. Olivieri
Alderman: Ward-7
845-481-3824
Facebook.com/Mike4ward7

From: Stuart Gray [minicooperlvr@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, January 7, 2022 4:02 PM
To: Olivieri, Michael
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fair street extension

Alderman Ward 7

I am totally against giving the Fair Street extension to the Kingstonian project. Most importantly our Fire Department has stated losing the Fair Street extension would add response time on calls uptown. That is number 1 on why it shouldn't be granted. Number 2 is why give it away. If the project does go through they are asking for a large PILOT break. We the citizens of Kingston are asked to dig deeper into our pockets to pay our fair share of taxes. Our mayor keeps bragging he hasn't raised our taxes. True! But they raise the assessment of our homes therefore our taxes go up. The big meeting on the Fair Street extension on January 12 is going to be in person only. There are many of us who don't feel comfortable going into large groups. Even on the news we hear of concerts being canceled due to raising Covid numbers.

Let's be fair and make the meeting available on zoom so we can attend and be safe.

Stuart K Gray
56 Derrenbacher Street
Kingston, NY

Ward 7-1

Sent from my iPhone

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Mark Hoffstatter <mhoffstatter@hvc.rr.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 08, 2022 9:54 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fair Street Extension

Hi,

I believe the need for parking and public bathrooms in the Uptown Stockade shopping and dining area is critical for its continued success. I feel that the Kingstonian's proposals will help satisfy that need, and be an asset to both the City and the Uptown District.

Mark Hoffstatter
5 Bluestone Park Road
Saugerties, NY 12477
(845) 246-0569

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Davis, Tony
Sent: Saturday, January 08, 2022 10:01 AM
To: Olivieri, Michael
Cc: Alderman
Subject: Re: FW: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fair street extension

The article about the KFD was misleading. 1st and foremost it didn't come from the City KFD. 2nd as a former City Firefighter, if there was an emergency in uptown the engine would not take Fair Street Extension, we would take a left out if the station on Frogalley, make another left onto North Front Street. Any emergency in uptown, the fire dept would be there by 5 minutes or less. No delay because of not using Fair Street Extension, if anything that false statement in the Newspaper would take it longer. 3rd the City is not giving the Street to the developer but giving an easement, the City would be saving thousands of dollars because the City would not be responsible for plowing or any other maintenance because the developers as part of the easement agreement would be responsible which would allow City personnel such as DPW and Engineers to provide service as where.

On Jan 8, 2022 8:17 AM, "Olivieri, Michael" <ward7@kingston-ny.gov> wrote:
From a constituent.

Michael A. Olivieri
Alderman: Ward-7
845-481-3824
Facebook.com/Mike4ward7

From: Stuart Gray [minicooperlvr@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, January 7, 2022 4:02 PM
To: Olivieri, Michael
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fair street extension

Alderman Ward 7

I am totally against giving the Fair Street extension to the Kingstonian project.
Most importantly our Fire Department has stated losing the Fair Street extension would add response time on calls uptown. That is number 1 on why it shouldn't be granted.
Number 2 is why give it away. If the project does go through they are asking for a large PILOT break. We the citizens of Kingston are asked to dig deeper into our pockets to pay our fair share of taxes. Our mayor keeps bragging he hasn't raised our taxes. True! But they raise the assessment of our homes therefore our taxes go up.
The big meeting on the Fair Street extension on January 12 is going to be in person only. There are many of us who don't feel comfortable going into large groups. Even on the news we hear of concerts being canceled due to raising Covid numbers.
Let's be fair and make the meeting available on zoom so we can attend and be safe.

Stuart K Gray
56 Derrenbacher Street
Kingston, NY

Ward 7-1

Sent from my iPhone

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: khammill <khammill@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 8:18 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Kingstonian support

Hi There-

Nice to meet you! I wanted to send a quick message as I am a business owner in Uptown, my store is River Mint Finery. I wanted to say I am in support of the Kingstonian Project and I think it will be greatly beneficial for our local community.

Thank you so much and have a wonderful day.

Best,
Kathryn Hammill

River Mint Finery
270 Fair Street
Kingston, NY 12401

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Clark Richters <clark12401@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 09, 2022 12:01 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fwd: Common Council Public Hearing: Abandonment of Fair Street Ext.

Please make this part of the public hearing records

City Clerk/Registrar
Elisa Tinti

I'm pretty sure I'm going to be working dinner work scheduling so can you attach this to that public hearing..

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Clark Richters** <clark12401@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Nov 20, 2021 at 12:12 PM
Subject: Common Council Public Hearing: Abandonment of Fair Street Ext.
To: Elisa Tinti <emtinti@kingston-ny.gov>

Please make this part of the public hearing records

City Clerk/Registrar
Elisa Tinti

I do not agree with the proposal to abandon Fair Street Extension. This will cause more traffic congestion in uptown especially on Clinton Avenue & Westbrook Lane. furthermore

This \$25 million tax exemption over the next 25 years. and the proposal to abandon the Fair Street Extension should be on a public referendum for the voters to vote on

Clark Richters Sr. Kingston

My Blog <https://thekingstonnews.blogspot.com/>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Tinti, Egidio
Sent: Sunday, January 09, 2022 12:20 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fair Street Extension

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Claudia Forest <theforeststudio@gmail.com>
Date: Jan 9, 2022 11:59 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fair Street Extension
To: "Tinti, Egidio" <etinti@kingston-ny.gov>
Cc:

Hello,

I am a full-time resident of uptown Kingston where I also have a private practice as a therapist and perform as a musician in a band. I primarily traverse the streets of Kingston either on foot or by bicycle. Though when necessary, I also drive. I am opposed to the closure of Fair Street Extension for the purposes of creating a parking lot for the projected building of the Kingstonian. I don't believe the city of Kingston needs more parking or to attract more automobiles to the uptown area. I believe we need to invest in alternative transportation, a make the city more pedestrian and bicycle friendly/safe. More cars create more pollution and more injuries and deaths to pedestrians and cyclists. More space that could be used for living and recreation solely devoted to parking is not the direction the city needs to go now or in the future.

Respectfully,

Claudia Forest, LCSW, TRE®

B.A. Holistic Health, M.A. Dance & Movement

Trauma Release Exercise Practitioner

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2ftraumaprevention.com&c=E,l,ljJ6CqXwIQOhL92GQg02WwcYQ_BrfrKA-vsToYvBRcQKVXjNjqvY2WJyPSXEf63pwcOxwcl9qCvUBfVed9LR8D-9RlleaVfzg_1S3mW6Q0REQ.,&typo=1

Violinist

(845) 594-5111

Sent from my iPhone

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

January 9, 2022

City of Kingston Common Council
c/o Elisa Tinti
City Clerk
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401

Dear Kingston Common Council Member,

Happy, Healthy New Year to all. As an Uptown Business Owner, I am writing to you in favor of the Common Council voting to partially close Fair Street Extension. As a continued supporter of the Kingstonian, the multitude of public benefits to this project speaks for itself. I have continuously said that the project will bring new housing, sales tax revenue, jobs, public parking, public bathrooms and most importantly consumers to Kingston as a whole. Studies have been done not once but twice and both studies concluded that the project impacts were minimal and easily mitigated on the road abandonment. We the business owners, the governing bodies and the people knew from the beginning of the road abandonment this shouldn't be an issue 5 years later. I applaud the Developers for their continuous efforts in trying to bring this project fruition.

Thank you for your continued support of this vital economic initiative. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at (845) 594-5715.

Sincerely,

Elenie Loizou
Owner
Dietz Stadium Diner
127 North Front Street
Kingston, NY 12401

Tinti, Elisa

From: Joe Cohen <joecohenod70@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 09, 2022 2:07 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial Abandonment of Fair Street

Dear Members of the Common Council,

As a Kingston resident and uptown business owner, I am in favor of the project as proposed. My family has owned the property on 70 N. Front Street and has had businesses in this building for 104 years. My optometric practice is located in this building.

I am looking forward to this very exciting change to our uptown community.

Sincerely,
Dr. Joe Cohen

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: khammill <khammill@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 8:18 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Kingstonian support

Hi There-

Nice to meet you! I wanted to send a quick message as I am a business owner in Uptown, my store is River Mint Finery. I wanted to say I am in support of the Kingstonian Project and I think it will be greatly beneficial for our local community.

Thank you so much and have a wonderful day.

Best,
Kathryn Hammill

River Mint Finery
270 Fair Street
Kingston, NY 12401

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: David <david@daverylance.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 10:30 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial road closure Fair St. ext.

Dear Ms. Tinti:

I am writing in SUPPORT of the closure of Fair St. Ext. to facilitate the building of the Kingstonian project. The economic benefits of this project, including the addition of a public parking garage cannot be overstated. I have lived and worked in Kingston and surrounding towns for 75 years. There have been many lean years for businesses, including mine, that will prosper with this project. Please add my name to those of other proud citizens of Greater Kingston that support the development of the Kingstonian. I cannot imagine that public safety will be impaired because the nearest fire house is located on Frog Alley and the ONLY current business on Fair Street Ext. is Herzog's Supply Co. warehouse.

Sincerely,
David H. Rylance
(845) 331-3615

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

1/10/22

To: City of Kingston Common Council
c/o Elisa Tinti, City Clerk

Hello there. My name is John Krenek, owner of exit nineteen at 309 Wall Street and Spruce Design + Decor located at 63 Broadway. We have had a presence in Uptown for eight years and downtown for four years. We love Kingston and all that it offers. It's a thriving town and it just keeps getting better. I can't begin to tell you how many people come into our shops because they have read yet another article on why Kingston is so amazing. This includes day trippers, weekend getaway folks and those from all the neighboring towns and counties. That momentum must continue.

Today, I'm writing to express 100% support of The Kingstonian project and the need to partially close Fair Street Ext. to fully execute the vision of the developers. Frankly, I'm not really certain why the Kingstonian has not already broken ground. It seems to me that there is always a last ditch effort to keep it from moving forward. This appears to be the case with the partial closure of Fair Street Ext..

*This project will add much needed parking for the neighborhood. I constantly have customers complaining about how difficult it is to find a parking space on the street. I only wonder how much business exit nineteen has lost because they gave up on finding a parking spot.

*This project will create a public park space. Currently, there is not a centralized area in Uptown for people to gather, sit and have lunch outdoors on beautiful days and provide public restrooms for visitors to use. It will also link The Stockade area to the shopping center below.

*This project will provide much needed housing in Uptown at all levels and another hotel for out of town visitors to stay.

*This project will add new businesses to the neighborhood and help it continue to grow. People will come to these new businesses, walk the neighborhood and shop at all the various shops.

*This project will also create jobs during the building phase and thereafter.

Enough with the delays. I ask you to please finally approve The Kingstonian and the partial closure of Fair St. Ext. and let Uptown thrive even more.

John Krenek-Owner
exit nineteen
&
Spruce Design + Decor

CITY OF KINGSTON

Office of the Mayor

mayor@kingston-ny.gov

Steven T. Noble
Mayor



10 January 2022

Honorable Andrea Shaut
President/Alderman-at-Large
Kingston Common Council
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401

Re: Public Comment for Fair Street Extension Public Hearing

Dear Members of the Common Council,

I submit this public comment as the Mayor of the City of Kingston. The proposed resolution allows the City to discontinue through-moving vehicular traffic on a portion of Fair Street Extension and transform the upper portion of the street into a park. I firmly believe that this resolution, one legislative step in a multi-year process, will benefit our City.

In recent weeks, the public has been inundated with misinformation about this resolution on social media and in local advertisements. I write to set the record straight on key issues:

- You are not being asked to “sell” a street or transfer public property into private hands. Fair Street Extension belongs to our City and always will.
- The Council already approved the creation of this pedestrian plaza. The Council voted to approve the transfer of 21 North Front Street to the Kingston Local Development Corporation, understanding that the project would feature public amenities. The Council also approved the PILOT agreement, which requires the developers to maintain a pedestrian plaza, bathrooms, and other public amenities such as the walkway over Schwenk Drive. Rejecting this resolution would undermine the Council’s prior work and jeopardize the Downtown Revitalization Grant funding this project will bring to our City.
- The proposed resolution will not change the official City map. Based on the proposed public improvements at this site, pedestrians will still be able to walk through the newly created pedestrian plaza and cross safely over Schwenk Drive. The lower portion of the street will remain open and will provide access to the public parking garage.

I also want to use this opportunity to clarify rampant misunderstandings about the Kingstonian Project as a whole. After extensive review by hardworking City staff and many volunteers on our boards and commissions, this has become an even better project than originally proposed.

First, the City is not giving away taxpayer dollars to developers. The PILOT agreement—already approved by the Kingston Common Council, the County of Ulster, and the IDA—increases our revenue by charging the developers a fixed sum greater than the tax revenue we currently receive on the site. Instead of paying taxes above and beyond that fixed sum, the developers will bear the costs of maintaining the public amenities in perpetuity. That represents a \$3 million net benefit to the City when compared to what we would


otherwise receive in tax payments if also bearing the parking garage, pedestrian plaza and other amenity maintenance costs ourselves.

Second, our Downtown Revitalization Initiative Plan identified multiple ways this project will benefit our City: It will create housing in the Uptown district. It will help our retail and food service establishments by boosting year-round, non-tourist foot traffic, keeping local, small businesses vibrant and increasing sales tax revenue. It will also double available public parking by creating 270 public spots with an additional 150 spots for the development itself.

Third, this development aligns with our environmental objectives. Construction will meet or exceed the bronze standard of the National Green Building Standards rating system; and a third-party audit process will ensure that this building reflects our City's environmental ethos.

I want to thank the Common Council for your leadership in helping to develop the area surrounding 21 North Front Street. Multiple City administrations have attempted to fill the void left when urban removal tore down the former building at this site. In its place will be double the amount of parking available to the public, 143 new housing units (14 of which will be set aside for workforce housing for Kingston residents), and a new park with much-needed public restrooms in the historic district. City of Kingston taxpayers will not shoulder the costs of these improvements, but our entire community will reap the benefits.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Steven T. Noble', written in a cursive style.

Steven T. Noble
Mayor

Gary R. Milliken

POBox 492
415 hurley avenue
hurley, new york 12443

845-331-4924 home
845-594-3364 cell

January 9, 2022

City of Kingston / Common Council
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401

To Whom it may Concern-

I am writing in support of the Kingstonian project.

Just over a year ago, I did likewise to the Ulster County Industrial Development Agency and since the comments I made in that letter are, as if not more, valid today, I have attached a copy so as to not rewrite that narrative. My comments here only add to the previous letter and address issues that have arisen since.

In the past year plus, the saga continues, the lawsuits continue and the campaign to stop this project gets more desperate and misguided. I now see full page ads in the Daily Freeman paid for by Gottlieb Real Estate / Neal Bender to "Save the Character of Kingston" and "Save Fair Street Extension". More recently "Report: Taking Away Fair Street Extension Is Taking Away Lives". Both ads say to visit unfairstreetextension.com for more information.

Taking the last first, the website provides no additional information on why Mr. Bender feels this project will change the character of Kingston or any other information, it's a dead end, a copy of the Freeman ad. I addressed the "character" issue thoroughly in the UCIDA letter. He provides no information or position on why he feels that Fair Street Extension needs to be "saved". My personal experience traveling in Kingston, primarily to the Plaza and to Clinton Avenue via Schwenk Drive, I observe that while not unused, Fair Street Extension is not a high traffic street and it's being re-purposed would not create any significant issues getting around uptown.

The current ad referencing a "report" by Ron Graner is also suspect as Mr. Bender does not provide a copy of the alleged report and Mr. Graner has nothing to do with Kingston, he is apparently a paid consultant whose website (copyright 2018) still seems to be under construction and quite honestly a bit amateurish. The "report" bullet points in the ad (again with no data to back them up) are laughable, implying that Fair Street Extension is the one and only way that the Fire Department can access uptown Kingston. "The Kingston Fire Department does not have the staff on duty to perform all of the functions that will be required if the street is closed" is the point with the biggest "Huh?"... why on earth would someone suggest that closing one small street to through traffic would require more F.D. staff? The ad includes a half page photo of the Kingston Volunteer Fire Company ... Kingston, N.J. that is, along with assistance from the Kendall Park (NJ) Fire Company, 130 miles South of Kingston, N.Y. adding to the deception.

The unfortunate aspect of these ads is that there will be a certain segment of the population that will believe them.

Mr. Bender seems to be loudest opposing voice against the Kingstonian project, but nowhere do I see or hear what HIS vision for Uptown Kingston is. He owns several properties, about half that are empty storefronts, generating minimum property tax but no other positive benefit to the community, no sales taxes and nothing to increase visitors who bring their hard earned dollars to our city. If anything, having vacant stores is a net negative to the look, vibrancy and tax base of Kingston. The developers of the Kingstonian appear have a plan, to take the risk to build a multi-use property that regardless of PILOT, Fair Street Extension and numerous other challenges they need to address, will provide more taxes from more sources, risks that Mr. Bender is either unwilling or unable to achieve with his own properties.

Mr. Bender is not alone in expressing unfounded claims against the Kingstonian, in Freeman reporting on the past public hearing among statements, race and wealth have been dragged out as reasons for opposition, suggesting that the developers are just a bunch of white men looking to make a profit, etc:

"I'm completely against the giving of public resources over to private developers," Cheryl Schneider said. She said if the developers of The Kingstonian, Herzog Supply Co. and Kingstonian Development LLC, could not "make a buck" constructing their project without the public having to give away its streets, schools and tax money to them, then "maybe they have a sucky business plan."

They may be white, they assuredly would prefer to make a profit (but there is no guarantee) or they likely wouldn't be in business and anyone suggesting that this is just one more instance of the "rich" getting over on the "poor" might want to look into the long history of charity and giving to Kingston and surrounding communities by the Jordan family, they just might find they have benefited from their generosity.

Opponents, including Ms. Schneider obviously doesn't have a clue as to what it takes to develop such a property, the investment, the legal fees to address frivolous lawsuits and the lengthy and complicated process to meet all of the requirements. She doesn't understand that Kingston is not giving tax money to the developers, they are accepting an offer to receive a predetermined amount of tax dollars, that is maybe less than the full assessment, but whatever the amount it is more than zero.

Others seem to question the very integrity and honesty of the men and women who sit on the committees and boards (including the Common Council) that are reviewing the project, questioning for instance, the ACTUAL number of parking spaces available to the public and the ACTUAL number of affordable units. Apparently you are all involved in a big scheme.

But the up coming public hearing and this letter are ultimately about transferring Fair Street Extension to the developers of the Kingstonian, which I fully support. The developers have been up front about their plans and objectives, they have been responsive to public input, they along with their architects have worked to improve the vision of the proposed property, they have stuck with the process despite the opposition. They have done all the right things.

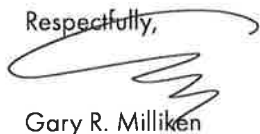
The benefits to our tax base, our population base, the attractiveness and vibrancy of greater Kingston that has been sought for decades post-IBM far outweigh those currently the result of Fair Street Extension as it exists now.

Other development proposals have come and gone and as time marches on, the cost and process of undertaking such a project are getting more complicated and more expensive, putting ever greater pressure on a projects ROI.

In my opinion, if the transfer of Fair Street Extension is not granted and if the Kingstonian does not gain the necessary approvals and permits to proceed, this may be an opportunity lost forever. The City of Kingston will be on record as setting a bar that no developer will be willing to jump over.

I urge you to approve the transfer and allow this project to move forward with all expediency.

Respectfully,



Gary R. Milliken

sycamore1754@hvc.rr.com

Attachment

Gary R. Milliken

POBox 492
415 hurley avenue
hurley, new york 12443

845-331-4924 home
845-594-3364 cell

October 6, 2020

To;

Ms. Rose Woodworth, Chief Executive Officer
Ulster County Industrial Development Agency

Re:

Kingstonian project

Dear Ms. Woodworth-

I am writing in support of the proposed Kingstonian project.

While not a resident of the City of Kingston, instead residing just outside the City limits in the Town of Ulster, I and my family have long ties to Kingston. Currently, I own the family farm on Hurley Avenue and my daughter is the sixth generation to reside here since 1861, our house was built in 1749. My Great-great Uncle Howard Myer's cigar factory was at 39 John Street, the building bears his name. My Grandfather and Father's architectural firm was active for decades and among other notable projects, my Grandfather designed the reconstruction of the City Hall tower and worked with John Pike on the Pike Plan. My Grandmother spent years working at the Senate House and Museum, not only as a guide but also transcribed for preservation many historical documents.

Born in 1962, I remember Montgomery Ward before it being demolished and replaced by the now demolished parking garage. I remember the days before malls, when IBM was in full force and uptown Kingston was a busy, vibrant district of commerce. I also remember IBM shutting off the lights and closing the doors and several decades of the City of Kingston trying to reinvent itself as businesses left uptown for the malls in the Town of Ulster.

Because of various events, a resurgence in Kingston seems to be taking hold. Visitors, tourists and new residents are flocking to the area to live in and enjoy the area and the multitudes of excellent restaurants and other attractions. This resurgence seems like the shot in the arm the City has needed for so long, which is why I am at a total loss to understand the fervent opposition to the Kingstonian project by a vocal minority.

There are several points the opposition makes that defy logic. I understand that several of these voices may be recent transplants to Kingston and may not have a full appreciation of the history of Uptown.

Much of this opposition can be summed up in the petition by developer Neil Bender who apparently owns several vacant properties and has "plans", none of which seems to be racing toward fruition...but let's take a look:

- The Kingstonian can be seen from 317 Wall St. future home of the Ye Olde Stockade Tavern. I would ask, so what? There are plenty of buildings that can be seen from 317 Wall St. and that likewise can see 317 Wall St., in all it's vacant glory.

Mr. Bender, et al, are obviously ignoring the fact that the location of the Kingstonian once was the home of Montgomery Ward, which could also be seen from 317 Wall St.

KingstonCitizens.org states: "...will dwarf all other buildings in the small district." If they have ever taken time to look at old photos of the western end of Wall St., they would see that the Montgomery Ward building "dwarfed" the area in the same way, that is to say, it doesn't.

- He is concerned the project "...will degrade the historic character of the area" and adversely affect his plans, "...which draws on the historical, Revolutionary War-era character and architecture in the Kingston Stockade District," Is he aware that there is nothing remotely "historical" or "character(istic) of the Revolutionary War architecture" in 317 Wall St. or any of the other buildings he owns, with the exception of 63 North Front St.? The only thing Olde about Ye Olde Stockade Tavern would be using Ye Olde to describe something that isn't.

The argument of the Kingstonian and other projects that have come and gone, having an adverse effect on other Historic locations within the Stockade District also seems thin. I would ask those that contend this, to produce one single person who has considered traveling to Kingston, to immerse themselves in it's history including "...the only intersection in America where the buildings on all four corners were built pre-Revolutionary War, the intersection of Crown Street and John Street.", having cancelled their plans because they became aware that within view of several of these locations, there in fact had been constructed a large, '60's era, modern building, the Ulster County Office Building.

- There is concern raised about the effects of excavation and construction at the Kingstonian site disturbing historic structures, including the Senate House. Once again, I would point to the fact that multiple cycles of construction and destruction have taken place on these sites at times when there were no codes or regulations to control such work.

- There seems to be opposition to so called "luxury apartments", again, I don't understand, so we should eschew potential affluent residents? The same residents that would be paying taxes and supporting businesses in the City? You would think Mr. Bender would welcome hundred's of potential customers within walking distance of the properties he owns, customers that purchase goods and services from the very people who pay rent to him.

If he and others are ultimately concerned with competition, they must not feel very confident in the plans they have. One only has to look at an establishment like The Hoffman House, where for over 40 years, Pat and Ginny Bradley not only survived, but thrived. Many excellent and successful restaurants have come and gone during that time and I would suggest that will always be the case.

The Kingstonian developers seemed to have addressed the question of mixed housing, so why the narrative of exclusively "luxury apartments" still exists can only be the result of opposition at all costs.

- Now the plan of attack is apparently over the PILOT. Am I to believe that NOT having new residents moving into Kingston, fewer people eating and shopping in Uptown, fewer people staying in hotels, fewer people generating tax dollars would be a net positive?

The City of Kingston seems to have a track record on development of shooting itself in the foot. There is the cloud of the old Post Office looming over every project 50+ years on.

I believe every project should be thoroughly studied and all of the regulatory boxes checked, but I remain strenuously opposed to never ending streams of lawsuits, brought by a very vocal minority, to suit their own purposes (not the greater good of the City). Far too often, these legal maneuvers work by wearing out the developer and ultimately creating a future where developers will take a pass if they are potentially confronted by such a hostile environment.

As noted before, Kingston seems to be finally experiencing a post-IBM resurgence. Now is the time to embrace the Kingstonian project and build on the positive momentum. The residents of Kingston and tax payers to the Kingston City School District will benefit, including Mr. Bender, his LLC CREDA and all the other nay-sayers.

Sincerely,



Gary R. Milliken

sycamore1754@hvc.rr.com

Tinti, Elisa

From: JULIE DONOVAN <goldens120@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 9:53 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Cc: Muhammad, Naimah
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Support of The Kingstonian

Dear Ms. Tinti and Ms. Muhammad,

My name is Julie Donovan, and I live in Ward 5 at 120 Fair Street, with my husband James. We have lived at this address for over 40 years.

First, I would like to welcome Ms. Muhammed to the Kingston's Common Council. I was really hoping to meet you prior to the election if you went door to door, but understand that Covid put a wrinkle into many things that should have happened.

The main reason I am writing this letter is to let you both know that my husband and I support the building of The Kingstonian, including the transfer of Fair Street extension to JM Development Group LLC in partnership with Herzog Supply Co.

The Kingstonian, when approved, will offer construction work to many; it will bring (and keep existing) retail and restaurant jobs; it will offer much needed housing and parking; it will entice visitors; and it will enhance the arts. It will help our entire city and county.

This project has taken far too long to get started. This can be sink or swim for Kingston and the surrounding area.

Please allow this project to finally move forward.

Thank you in advance.

Most Sincerely,
Julie Donovan
845-616-4141

Sent from my iPhone

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Miriam Gibbons <magibbons69@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 1:28 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial Road Closure Fair Street Extension

Dear Common Council,

We are sending this letter in support of the Fair Street closure. We have lived in Kingston for over 37 years. We work and shop uptown on a regular basis. The closure would allow for the Kingstonian project to move ahead and would benefit the uptown and community we live in. This would provide additional parking to the uptown area at no additional cost to the taxpayers. There would be an ADA compliant pedestrian bridge to link the uptown business district to Kingston Plaza. The pedestrian plaza and ADA compliant bridge are part of the DRI grant and specifically included in how the DRI funds must be used.

Please don't let a good opportunity bypass Kingston.

Miriam & John Gibbons
Kingston, NY 12401

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Richard Merck <richard@merckcpas.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 5:20 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial Road Closure Fair Street Extension - Kingstonian

I work and shop in the uptown area and support the partial closure of Fair Street Extension because of the multitude of benefits the project will bring. This project is a necessary addition to the Uptown district to provide housing accessible to people without vehicles and to provide a beautiful addition to an eyesore that is currently there. I ask that my support be clearly represented and that the partial road closure be approved.

Richard

Richard J Merck, CPA
Merck & Shumen, CPAs
101 Green Street
PO Box 3537
Kingston, NY 12402
www.merckcpas.com
Phone: 845-331-9667
Fax: 845-331-9673
[Click here](#) to upload files.

Confidentiality Notice: The information in this e-mail (including attachments, if any) is considered confidential and is intended only for the recipient(s) listed above. Any review, use, disclosure, distribution or copying of this e-mail is prohibited except by or on behalf of the intended recipient. If you have received this email in error, please notify me immediately by reply email, delete this email, and do not disclose its contents to anyone.

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: raleigh@raleighgreeninc.com
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 3:32 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] RE: Kingstonian Comment for Records

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To City Clerk for public comment on Fair Street Extension and Kingstonian project in the City of Kingston:

I wish to voice support for the transfer by the City of Kingston the Fair Street extension to the developers of the Kingstonian project. My rationale that from its initial proposal several years ago, the Kingstonian project clearly noted in illustrations, descriptions and public discussions that the Fair Street Extension would be closed and used for the building footprint. So the closure of the Fair Street extension is not a last minute request, but part of the original proposal and already well understood the the public. The Kingstonian will add many new units to the local housing market. There is a housing crises, at all levels, and this housing addition will offer some relief for the local housing market. And finally, jobs and economic vitality at both the building phase and longer term will be huge additions to the local economy and should not be overlooked or discounted.

Thank you,

Raleigh Green
Hurley, NY
(Kingston School District resident)

Raleigh Green Inc.
Making Brands Shine
raleigh@raleighgreeninc.com
917-687-5373
www.raleighgreeninc.com

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dennis and Terry Larios
4 Alison Court
Kingston, New York 12401

January 10, 2022

City of Kingston
Common Council
City Hall
Kingston, NY 12401

Dear Common Council Members,

We are lifelong residents of Kingston, and are from multi-generational Kingston families dating back to 1917. **We strongly support the Kingstonian Project** and the road closure of Fair Street Extension that is required to make the **Kingstonian** the best project possible.

- All of the governing bodies that have been weighing in all along have known that the road abandonment was essential in order to build the project being presented.
- The developers are providing enormous benefits in return for the necessary road abandonment. Public parking, housing, public gathering space, jobs, sales tax, ADA compliant pedestrian access, tourism, hotel rooms etc.
- If road abandonment was an issue, it should have been communicated 5 years ago.
- The consequences of the road abandonment were included in the traffic study presented as well as in the City of Kingston's own DRI uptown traffic study which specifically addresses Schwenk Drive. Both studies concluded the project impacts were minimal and easily mitigated.
- Without the road abandonment the public would lose some of the greatest benefits of the project—mainly the **public plaza/gathering space** which along with the public parking garage is the signature part of the project.
- The public plaza will contain a kiosk(s) promoting historic sites in and around Kingston and the Hudson Valley.
- There will be storefronts inside the pedestrian plaza creating sales tax and employment.

- The abandonment is also necessary to construct the ADA compliant pedestrian bridge which economically links the uptown business district to Kingston Plaza and additional parking.
- Linking the 2 important business districts via the bridge is a proven economic benefit booster.
- The pedestrian plaza and ADA compliant bridge are part of the DRI grant and specifically included in all our use of funds
- The bridge encourages walk-ability and pedestrian safety-2 things the project was asked to provide.
- All of these points were discussed and represented during SEQRA review and PILOT approval.
- As presented from the onset, the linking of both sides of the street is what makes the project most beneficial to the community and economically feasible to build. It allows the project to meet multiple goals outlined in advance by the City of Kingston and so much more—public parking, housing, employment, walk-ability, pedestrian safety, public restrooms, affordable housing, and public gathering space.

As we approach retirement it would be nice to have a complex like the **Kingstonian** as a housing option for us and our friends who would prefer to stay in Kingston. Kingston is simply lacking this type of housing alternative .

Thank you for your consideration of this letter supporting the **Kingstonian Project** and the required road abandonment. We further question the motives of (and regret the litigious nature of) some of the project opponents who seem unwilling to accept well-reasoned approvals by City agencies (and boards) and Supreme Court decisions upholding said approvals.

Very truly yours,

Dennis and Terry Larios
4 Alison Court, Kingston, NY 12401

Paul Larios
66 Valentine Avenue
Kingston, New York 12401

January 10, 2022

**City of Kingston
Common Council**

Dear Common Council Members,

I am writing to express my support for the Kingstonian Project and for the proposed partial abandonment of the portion of Fair Street Extension. The closure of this road segment to allow for a public pedestrian plaza in this area is essential in order for this rare, generational project to advance in its optimal form for City of Kingston residents and businesses. This pedestrian plaza presents a unique opportunity to enhance our community's health and financial stability while also addressing numerous overlapping needs for Kingston. I encourage the Common Council to please take the following into consideration:

- As a young, engaged community member and a lifelong Kingston resident, I urge the Council members to consider the adverse impact on future generations that would be created if this project fails to make it through this approval process. Kingston locals in my age demographic (18-34 years old) are largely concerned with the direction this city has been heading, but I'd like to assert that this group's support for the Kingstonian project is nearly unanimous. If this proposal fails to materialize (as a past proposal at this site did), the City of Kingston would be sending a message to our future generation(s) that would assuredly discourage any future redevelopment projects at this site and even elsewhere in Kingston. At such an ideal location, the City of Kingston and its residents would basically be left with the current site condition permanently, which is far from an ideal land use at this location.
- As concluded during the SEQR process, this proposed project was deemed to have no significant impact on the environment. As it happens, the closure of Fair Street Extension allows this project to become a net environmental benefit and make a positive environmental impact, as the pedestrian plaza will feature green stormwater infrastructure and many other low impact design features. This part of the project will eliminate impervious area and create new green space in a largely impervious neighborhood. As a professional environmental engineer, it is clear that the creation of a green pedestrian plaza in this area enhances the project for the City of Kingston's residents, tourists, prospective renters, and the environment.
- The numerous benefits that this project would create are nearly identical to the clear goals and objectives that are laid out in the Kingston 2025 Comprehensive Plan (see Goals #2, #4, #5, #7, and #9 from Kingston 2025 Plan), as well as meeting many key planning objectives in Kingston's Climate Action Plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan. In fact, this project exactly meets so many of these goals and strategies that there are far too many to begin citing all of them, and I'd like to think the Common Council is aware of this. Though, the Kingston 2025 plan's Goal #9 for Uptown contains Objective 9.3 ("Promote increased availability of parking" in Uptown) and Objective 9.6 ("Improve the connections physically and in character between Kingston Plaza and Uptown ") that are specific to the project area that are worth citing. This plan is also full of language promoting the following strategies: improved and increased multi-modal transportation, encouraging community connectivity with "Complete Streets", developing public squares in strategic locations, developing public-private partnerships, collaboration with UCAT and Citibus to provide safe, ADA-compliant pedestrian access to transit; stimulating investment to "provide incentives for the renovation of vacant upper story space for residential", and to "seek partnerships and seize upon every opportunity to green streets", to list some of the key points.
 - Clearly, this project and the closure of Fair Street Extension is fully in alignment with the City of Kingston's Comprehensive Plan (and the other relevant plans that have been created by the City of Kingston) in regards to transportation and accessibility/connectivity, climate and green infrastructure, housing, parking, Parks and Recreation, economic development, and land use and open space. This project and the closure of Fair Street Extension seems to create a **golden opportunity for the City of Kingston to meet dozens of planning objectives with one project.**

- As we all know, Kingston's housing market is experiencing unprecedented demand and home values. Our housing market has been featured in 6 or more New York Times articles (including a new article this morning), 1 Wall Street Journal article, and 1 Washington Post article since 2020. The following quote is from the June 9th, 2021 Washington Post article:

"Economists are keeping a close eye on whether this clash of meager home supply and out-of-control demand could threaten the broader economy. Prices for lumber and other goods used to build and remodel houses soared over the past few months, feeding the run-up in home prices and stoking debates about inflation."

Also, the Wall Street Journal noted our city as "the biggest gainer was Kingston, N.Y., with a 35.5% median-price increase" in home sales in their May 11th 2021 article. When our city's housing demand and growth is the highest in the nation, it is obvious that the Kingstonian project is needed now more than ever. Many young adults in my age demographic have been out-priced by this surge and can't afford to buy a house locally, and many are finding it increasingly difficult to find rental units at all. The difficulty finding rentals locally is also impacting lifelong residents in the older demographic, who are looking to downsize or move upon retirement or changing family circumstances. I hope that the Kingstonian project can aid in helping increase our city's housing supply, in general and for affordable units.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope this letter serves to emphasize the overlapping needs and the significant urban planning achievements this project would help address and obtain. It is my belief that any decision that does not allow for the closure of Fair Street Extension would be a mistake and a disservice to Kingston's current residents, prospective residents, and future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Larios", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul Larios, P.E.

66 Valentine Avenue, Kingston, NY 12401

Tinti, Elisa

From: Erin Keating <erinkeatingart@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 3:07 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Partial Road Closure Fair Street Extension -NO

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern,

Please do not allow the closure of the Fair Street Extension.

Traffic uptown is already a nightmare without removing this important extension.

It's time to consider what is in the best interest of the people who actually live and work here....YEAR ROUND. Not just the tourists and people who live here when it's convenient for them. Real locals can't afford to move and with more projects like this we won't be able to afford to live here for much longer either.

Thank you for your consideration.

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Alan Aidala <aaidala@kingstoncityschools.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:50 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Cc: Noble, Steve; info@kingstonianny.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] I Support the Partial Road Closure of Fair Street Extension

City of Kingston Common Council
c/o Elisa Tinti, City Clerk
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
Email: emtinti@kingston-ny.gov
Phone: (845) 334-3915

Dear Kingston Common Council Member,

I am writing in favor of the Council voting to partially close Fair Street Extension. I believe the multitude of public benefits the Kingstonian project brings speaks for itself and clearly warrants this decision.

I thank you for your continued support of this vital economic initiative.

Thank you for your service,

<< BE SURE TO ENTER YOUR FULL NAME HERE >>

Alan J Aidala 79 Clifton Avenue, Kingston, NY 12401

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Giovanna Righini
Ward 5, Kingston NY
11 January 2022

PAGE ONE OF TWO

Fair Street Ext Partial Abandonment - Public Hearing

Dear Members of the Common Council,

I have revised and added to my comments which were originally submitted for the first ill-fated hearing on this matter.

After reviewing project information initially provided by the City of Kingston on its website, I would like to comment regarding the proposed partial abandonment of the Fair Street Extension to facilitate the Kingstonian development project.

In the project's SEQR EAF form on page two under Government Approvals, it is noted that the Council had to approve "Sale or Lease of Land/Closing of Fair Street Ext."

The land (parking lot) has NOT been sold/leased by the City on behalf of its constituents, but instead has been conveyed to the Kingston Local Development Corporation (KLDC). According to Mayor Noble, the KLDC has entered into a land development agreement to convey this public land to the Kingstonian for-profit development, but the LDA has not been publicly posted for review. This transaction, in my opinion, has been a violation of the public trust.

It is puzzling that we are only now having a public hearing on partial abandonment of the Fair Street Ext. Why was this not laid out clearly by the City and handled in a straightforward manner at the beginning of the project during SEQR? Unfortunately, waiting until this late date in the project's timeline gives the distinct impression that the hearing is meaningless. The outcome is surely predetermined, but the "public participation" box can be checked off the list. Like the KLDC agreement, it also fails to be transparent.

The Mayor's public comment from the first hearing stated that you are not being asked to transfer the property of Fair Street Ext to the Kingstonian and that the City will retain ownership for a new public use. This use as stated by the Mayor will include a public plaza and public restrooms, all of which will require regular maintenance. This use will also permanently destroy a significant historic resource in the Stockade District and the street closure may generate traffic and safety issues. It is my opinion that destruction of the historical resource (the existing topography that marks the historic boundary and the historic street pattern) is an irreversible travesty to Kingston's Historic District.

Interestingly, Mayoral correspondence to Council President Shaut dated Oct 1, 2021 and Finance Committee Report wording both call for the Kingstonian development to agree to be responsible for all maintenance of Fair Street Ext (presumably this includes the plaza and restrooms) in order to receive an easement. However, the proposed

PAGE TWO OF TWO

Council resolution (that was posted for the first hearing) authorizing partial abandonment of Fair Street Ext does NOT include this language or make any reference to it. Is this responsibility to be handled separately after the partial abandonment? What is the correct contractual process for it and how will the public be informed?

Given the City's failure to formally document numerous items in the public interest with this developer and its general lack of coherent process to date (which should include timelines and straightforward disclosure to the public in a manner that promotes understanding), I hope that the Council pays close attention to what it is signing off on. Please do not continue to violate the public trust by failing to ensure that the Kingstonian's responsibilities are clearly and contractually outlined if there is to be an exchange of publicly owned land. And please do the research to ensure that this exchange is being conducted in a fully legal manner, without being rushed through to accommodate development interests at the public's expense.

Many thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Giovanna Righini

Tinti, Elisa

From: Irene Schrowang <irene@schneidersjewelers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:46 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] kingstonian

**I am writing in favor of the closure of Fair street extension. I have lived and worked in uptown kingston for 26 years and feel that this project needs to continue.
Uptown Kingston needs this project if businesses are going to continue to thrive.**

Sincerely, Irene Schrowang

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Barbara Hill <bhillward1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:48 AM
To: Rask, David
Cc: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Re: Kingstonian Project

Good Morning David.

Thanks for reaching out to me. It would be great if you could comment on how you view the issue at hand...the partial abandonment of the Fair Street Extension.

If you could include your comment to Elisa Tinti...cc:d here that would be greatly appreciated. My new email address is included below.

I hope to meet you sometime!

Barbara Hill
Alderman Ward 1
ward1@kingston-ny.gov

On Tue, Jan 11, 2022, 10:01 AM Rask, David <david.rask@ironmountain.com> wrote:
Barbara,

My name is David Rask and I live at 39 Lafayette Avenue in Kingston along with my wife and 2 adult children. I am writing in regards to the Kingstonian Project. I am in favor of the project and wanted to express this to you. Thank you for taking the time to read this email and thank you very much for representing me in Ward 1.

Regards
David Rask

The information contained in this email message and its attachments is intended only for the private and confidential use of the recipient(s) named above, unless the sender expressly agrees otherwise. Transmission of email over the Internet is not a secure communications medium. If you are requesting or have requested the transmittal of personal data, as defined in applicable privacy laws by means of email or in an attachment to email, you must select a more secure alternate means of transmittal that supports your obligations to protect such personal data.

If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient and/or you have received this email in error, you must take no action based on the information in this email and you are hereby notified that any dissemination, misuse or copying or disclosure of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by email and delete the original message.

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Hello,

I am Debra Harris, Director of Sales at the Best Western Plus in Kingston located in Ward 1. I am in support the Kingstonian Development Project and the partial street closure of Fair Street extension. This creative reuse benefits both the business, residents and tourists to the Kingston Uptown business district. The pedestrian plaza will add much needed event space for public gatherings as well as enhancing the area with a kiosk to provide information for shoppers, diners and tourists in general visiting the area. A much-needed public restroom and public parking also are vital to support the business district that has been without adequate parking for the past decade as project after project falls through.

To have a project like this proceed without an increase on the tax burden is a benefit to all the business owners as well as city residents. The Kingstonian will provide much needed housing. The increase of resident/consumer traffic will enhance and support business struggling to survive in this current economy as well as attract the development/investment in new businesses to the district.

This project will also bring construction jobs to the area and contribute to more tax revenue. I am asking that the council approve this partial street closure and support the Kingstonian project so that we can move forward and enhance the business district.

Debra Harris

Best Western Plus Kington

845 338 1299

dharris@cooperhotels.com

Tinti, Elisa

From: Tom Polk <tapolk59@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Written Comments on the Kingstonian

Dear City Clerk:

Here is my statement, to be entered into the public record:

**City of Kingston Public Hearing January 12, 2022
Statement by Tom Polk**

My name is Tom Polk. I live at 104 Arnold Drive, Kingston. While my address is in the Town of Ulster, I commute daily to the City for work, often by bicycle.

I support the partial abandonment of Fair Street Extension. I have 4 points to make.

First, The Kingstonian project responded to a City RFP and provides substantial benefits. It is poised to bring back public parking to Uptown, lacking since the demise of the old parking garage. It will provide housing and economic development opportunities to the City.

Second, replacing the road with a pedestrian open space and ADA compliant features will be safer and more accessible to all walkers. Improving the walkability of Kingston is another significant benefit.

Third, I was a member of the Advisory Committee for the DRI Uptown Transportation Improvements Project. This project used the services of HVEA Engineers, who found limited impact of the proposed closure of Fair Street Extension. On a personal level, as a cyclist and motorist, I prefer going on Clinton Avenue and rarely use Fair Street.

And finally, I would contrast the developers of the Kingstonian with the property owner who has been filing court cases and supporting full-page advertising in the Daily Freeman. The ads falsely claim the developers are receiving “illegal public land and rights” or will “endanger lives.” The Kingstonian, and the re-purposing of Fair Street, have been extensively documented, examined, reviewed, debated and approved by many public bodies. The property owner, on the other hand, has done nothing to develop or populate his numerous holdings. I ask you to consider what the City’s alternatives might be: relying on a landlord with no evidence of providing benefits, and the Kingstonian.

Thanks for your consideration.

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: fayzerclub@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 12:30 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Kingstonian Project Support

City of Kingston Common Council
c/o Elisa Tinti, City Clerk
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
Email: emtinti@kingston-ny.gov

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you in full support of the project called the Kingstonian. At this particular point my support is focused on the partial closure of the road known as Fair Street. After careful review there are so many benefits that will come to the City of Kingston, all of which has been outlined in there application and I cannot see where this partial closure will be a negative to this area of Kingston. Truth be told it is just what Kingston needs in the uptown area and is the first real positive development in many years.

The developers are longtime Kingston supporters and have proven time and time again they care about and want to see Kingston grow and be a place where people want to be. There is know question about their integrity and their guarantee that this project will be completed and will be a showcase for the area and an economic plus for the City of Kingston.

I lived for 50 years and worked for 45 years in Kingston before retiring and still volunteer for two Boards, Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Kiwanis Club of Kingston and not only am I concerned about the growth in the City of Kingston but I completely support this project. Please review the benefits once again and do the right thing and vote on a positive note for this project and the partial closure of Fair Street. It is in the best interest of the City of Kingston.

Joseph Fay
Retired
Boys & Girls Clubs of Kingston

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Duane L. Postupack <postuval@hvc.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 12:34 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] The Kingstonian

My name is Duane L. Postupack. I live at 117 Madison Avenue, Kingston, NY 12401. I also own a building at 261 Fair Street, Kingston, NY 12401.

I'm in favor of the Kingstonian project. There are significant benefits to the city and county including increased taxes, employment, parking, etc.

I'm also in favor of repurposing Fair Street as it will provide a safer access to the public parking, hotel entrance, and pedestrian access to the plaza.

We currently have a short supply of housing. Rents are increasing at an alarming rate due to increased demand coupled with a shortening supply.

As a community, we need to increase the number of housing units.

Respectfully, Duane L. Postupack

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Becky Lamoreaux <beckalamm@juno.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 12:48 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] I oppose the Fair Street extension abandonment!

Good afternoon!

I wish this email to be used for public record as my statement on the subject of abandoning the Fair Street extension.

My name is Rebecca Lamoreaux. I'm a lifelong resident here in Kingston. I am opposed to this abandonment for many reasons. Let's start off about the obvious..There is a huge increase in people here. The traffic has nowhere to go! It's bad enough right now vehicles from John Street, Kingston plaza, Schwenk drive. Then cars in the opposite direction coming from Broadway to uptown. It's already a bottleneck during busy hours. At least some of the traffic gets diverted and moved away from that intersection with that Road open! If it is closed, the traffic will be backed up on Schwenk drive to Hurley Avenue and Broadway during these busy hours. We already have issues with the traffic circle backing up to Hurley Avenue, North Front Street and Lucas Ave intersections during busy hours. When warmer temperatures approach it's going to be horrendous! So this is a no-brainer to leave the road alone it's needed!! Thank you

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lamoreaux
189 Hurley Avenue Apt 5
Kingston, NY 12401

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

